

Kanegasaki Sister City Committee
Business Meeting Minutes
April 27th, 2011 at 4 PM
Senior Center: Alice Dowd Lounge

Members Present: Amy Springer (Chair), Denise Boyd, Florence Boynton, Byron Koh (Secretary), Aaron Kropf, Kathy Woods Masalski

Member Absent: Jule Dupre, Stephanie Joyce

Others: Yuko Takahashi, Nancy Pagano (Staff Liaison)

Secretary's Report:

- Minutes of March 2st, 2011, and March 17, 2011 were approved as submitted.
- The Secretary on behalf of the Committee shall write to the chairs of the Rotary Club and The Amherst Club indicating its concern that there may have been a miscommunication between the intent of the Committee and what may have been conveyed in regard to partnering with them at our March fundraiser. This letter will clarify the objectives of the KSCC. Amy said she misunderstood the Committee's intent regarding the fundraising dinner and the offer of the Rotary and Amherst Clubs.

Treasurer's Report:

- KSCC balance \$1,116.82;
- Fundraising total \$2,045 with distribution as follows:
\$240 to American Red Cross, \$315 to the Japanese Red Cross, \$1,490 to be sent to Kanegasaki's Relief Fund to be distributed to those impacted in the coastal areas of the Iwate Prefecture. (This last amount will be forwarded when wiring instructions are obtained from Kanegasaki.)
- Yuko thanked the Committee for the honorarium awarded her for all her hard work before and during the visit of the Mayor of Kanegasaki. The Committee expressed its appreciation for Yuko and Aaron Kropf's efforts during the visit.

Kanegasaki's Tenth Anniversary Celebration of Establishment of Emily Dickinson Center

Kanegasaki is starting to make plans for its Emily Dickinson Center celebration October 13-16, 2011, and has informally through our liaison Yoko, begun discussion with the KSCC about the appropriate delegation to come from Amherst. Amy and Stephanie cannot attend and Jane Wald might not be able to either, Amy reports. Kanegasaki will pay expenses incurred from Narita Airport for the entire Kanegasaki stay but not the cost of the flight to and from the U.S.A. The KSCC will discuss this further at its next meeting. Aaron K. asked if the Committee could help with the air fares that Kanegasaki will not fund this year.

Update from Mayor's Reception November 7th, 2010

The Town of Amherst was correct in requiring a liquor license for the November 7th Kanegasaki Sister City Committee's (KSCC) reception for the visiting Mayor of Kanegasaki and his associates. However, because the event was part of the Town's welcoming of Kanegasaki, the cost of the license (\$100) was refunded by the Town to Aaron Hayden, who had paid the \$100 on behalf of the KSCC, which was prepared to reimburse him for that amount.

KSCC Membership Update

Terms expiring: Both Byron Koh's and Florence Boynton's terms expire in June. Byron has served since 1999 and will not accept another term. Florence is willing to be reappointed. Amy is taking a leave of absence until September and will not continue as Chair. Jule Dupre is taking a leave for a year but is willing to return afterward—her term is 2009-2012. A discussion of officers for FY12 will occur at the next meeting and Amy asked the Committee to think about nominations.

Archives Report, Grant Proposal, 20th Anniversary—Kathy Masalski

- Kathy reported on her efforts for the fundraiser with Bertucci's. She gave details about conversations with the manager and the complicated paperwork involved including who will sign a W-9, where the Town fits in the IRS code, and which tax deductible organization should the funds raised go to. A target date for the fundraiser of Tuesday, July 19th, was chosen.
- Kathy reported on her work on the committee archives. She has arranged the material into folders in chronological order. She said that the schools were not willing to share their archival material—they prefer to have it in the schools.
- Kathy brought information about a grant offering from the Japan Foundation for the vitalization of Sister City relationships. Aaron Kropf volunteered to look into it.
- **MOTION APPROVED** Aaron Kropf will investigate the possibility of the KSCC applying for a grant from Sister Cities International and will inform the KSCC of his findings via email.
- Kathy presented a booklet of pictures and statements in honor of the Hokkaido International Association as an example of what the Committee might do for its 20th anniversary. She provided each member with a draft list of questions that could be used to prompt those who would be asked to comment and to offer congratulations to the two towns, Amherst and Kanegasaki, for their twenty year relationship. Kathy requested members' comments on this list at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: May 24th, 2011, at 4 PM, Bangs Community Center's Alice Dowd Lounge

Meeting Adjourned: 5:34 PM

Respectfully Submitted, Byron Koh, Secretary, with contributions by Nancy Pagano